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ABSTRACT

Because of its complex history, Puerto Rico's legend and myth surpass the literature of other regions and present special characteristics and problems pertaining to its population. Bibliographic control of Puerto Rican publications is often insufficient and there is a need for an organized and extensive bibliography which covers all disciplines and periods since the island's discovery. Academic libraries are making an effort to develop Hispanic-American collections to support programs for and about Hispanics in the United States, of which a significant proportion are Puerto Rican; consequently, these collections should place an emphasis on Puerto Rican materials in order to support both Puerto Rican studies programs in academic institutions and the Puerto Rican experience in the United States. The main intent of this paper is to present a bibliographic "pathfinder" for Puerto Rican sources in literature which is designed to facilitate studies and research in Puerto Rican literature published on the island as well as by Puerto Ricans in the United States. Its scope encompasses all literary genres published from 1980 to the present, and most of the materials included are written in Spanish, although some sources in other languages are provided. The 41 citations provided include bibliographies, indexes, dictionaries, handbooks, anthologies, conference papers, and periodicals. (13 references) (Author/MAB)

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"PUERTO RICAN SOURCES IN LITERATURE: RESEARCH AND REFERENCES IN AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY"

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Illinois Library Association Conference
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ABSTRACT

"Puerto Rican Sources in Literature: Research and References in an Academic Library"

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During the last decade the literature on, by, and about Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans has grown. More scholars have raised the question of what is real and what is myth in the literature that has been written on the Island and its people. Because of its complex history, Puerto Rico's legend and myth surpass the literature of other regions and present special characteristics and problems pertaining to its population.

Bibliographic control of Puerto Rican publications is often poor and there is a need for an organized and extensive bibliography which covers all disciplines and all periods since its discovery. There are no comprehensive reference tools. The Anuario bibliográfico puertorriqueño, which is the closest approximation to a national bibliography, has not been updated since 1973-74.

Academic libraries are making an effort to develop Hispanic-American collections to support programs for and about Hispanics in the U.S. as they now constitute 8.2% of its population. A significant proportion of Hispanic Americans is Puerto Rican; consequently, these collections should place an emphasis on Puerto Rican materials in order to support Puerto Rican studies programs in academic institutions as well as the Puerto Rican experience in the United States.

This paper intends to present a pathfinder for Puerto Rican sources in literature. This includes bibliographies, indexes, dictionaries, handbooks, anthologies, and periodicals.

During the last decade the literature on, by, and about Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans has experienced substantial growth. More scholars have raised the question of what is real and what is myth in the literature that has been written on the island and its people.[1] Because of its complex history, Puerto Rico's legends and myths surpass the literature of other regions and present special characteristics and problems pertaining to its population.

Bibliographic control of Puerto Rican publications is often poor and there is a need for an organized and extensive bibliography which covers all disciplines and all periods pertaining to Puerto Rico since its discovery.[2] There are no comprehensive reference tools presently available. The Anuario bibliográfico puertorriqueño, which is the closest approximation to a national bibliography, has not been updated since 1973-74.

This year the first bibliography of Puerto Rican bibliographies was published. Fay Fowlie-Flores, the compiler of this work, states that scholars undertaking research previously had to search for bibliographies in scattered sources.[3] Librarians welcome this important addition to their holdings, which will benefit the country's research.

The lack of bibliographic control is also true for the Puerto Rican publications in the United States. The Puerto Rican community is active in theater and literature as well as politics, labor movements, and art.[4] Newsletters, small magazines, essays, monographs, art catalogs, etc. are being published and are available for researchers, but there is no

single compilation or bibliography to account for them.

Academic libraries are making an effort to develop Hispanic-American collections to support programs for and about Hispanics in the U.S. as they now constitute 8.2% of its population. A significant proportion of Hispanic Americans is Puerto Rican; consequently, these collections should place an emphasis on Puerto Ricans in order to support Puerto Rican studies programs in academic institutions as well as the Puerto Rican experience in the United States. However, if one wishes to study this emerging group of the demographic composition of this land, the beginning point, or the origin of this culture also has to be researched. This point supports the need for a national bibliography that would "reflect the ample harvest of books, journals, newspapers, government documents, pamphlets, theses, dissertations and other publications."[5]

The "Big Apple" is the preferred area of immigration for all of the Caribbean nations, but this is particularly true for Puerto Ricans, as is demonstrated by the massive scale of people from this country who have immigrated into the New York area.[6] This fact can be explained in three ways: 1.) their status as American citizens; 2.) the geographic proximity; and 3.) the available opportunities for work.

The Spanish tradition is part of the American life, because historically some areas of the nation have had large hispanic populations. The Southwest and West of this country in particular are populated by Mexicans and Mexican Americans.[7]

Thus, Chicano collections in those areas have flourished both in academic and public libraries to serve their needs. In comparison to this, the East Coast has large Puerto Rican populations and it is no surprise that the large collections on Puerto Rican materials are also concentrated in the East.[8] One must also not forget the depositories of materials in Puerto Rico itself, both in academic institutions as well as public libraries. New York contains the largest repository of Puerto Rican publications in the U.S. at the New York Public Library, which is dispersed between the main metropolitan library and the individual borough libraries.[9] Then there is the Library of Congress, which has collections on Hispanic materials that are incredible, with holdings of over 2,000,000 books and periodicals.[10]

The Midwest also has its share of the Hispanic population and a significant portion is Puerto Rican. According to the 1980 census, the Puerto Rican population in the state of Illinois is around 132,000 people. This figures out to be roughly 21% of the Hispanic population in the state.[11] (These statistics are from the 1980 census. Although there has been a more recent census taken this year, the final results have not yet been made available.) Rough estimates of growth of the Puerto Rican population indicate a 25% increase since 1980, which puts their present population at around 165,000.[12] It is therefore easy to understand the concern of the University of Illinois in the collection development of materials to serve this resident

population, as well as the faculty and students of the University itself. The Latin American and Caribbean holdings of the University of Illinois Library are among the most extensive collections in the country, and are the largest in the Midwest region. This makes it *the library* of resource for Hispanic material for the area.

An important part of this paper presentation is the attached pathfinder to current sources on Puerto Rican literature (included are those published since 1980). Many of the basic works included in this pathfinder are invaluable in making collection development decisions in this area of study. One must always keep in mind that the selection criteria for the acquisition of Puerto Rican literature materials be in accordance with the emphasis by the University of Illinois Library on primary material and/or those materials that are suitable for academic research. This is only natural since we serve a large student body and have to provide sources to support the varied curricula and diverse interdisciplinary courses taught here at the University. The following are many of the basic reference works which help in collection development activities.

BASIC WORKS

Handbook of Latin American Studies: Humanities. 1980-.

This is an annotated bibliography that is published every other year. It has been and continues to be a de rigueur reference work for Latin American and Caribbean studies. It will

soon be available not only in print, but also online (beginning with volume 50).

Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI). 1980-.

This index is as valuable as the Handbook described above, especially for current material which is largely to be found in serial publications. Articles are indexed from a comprehensive list of Latin American and Caribbean journals as well as journals published in the United States, Canada, and Europe that cover Latin American and Caribbean topics. HAPI also includes references to book reviews that are published in the journals which it indexes. Around 245 journals are indexed with 44 on culture and literature and five that are published in Puerto Rico.

Bibliographic Guide to Latin American Studies. 1980-.

The most timely bibliography among bibliographies, this important reference work is published yearly, with coverage of all Latin American and Caribbean works that are held in the library of the University of Texas at Austin, as well as some books in the Library of Congress. It is arranged in dictionary format, and can be searched by author, title, or subject.

There are several other noteworthy sources to mention which cover more specialized topics. Here are some examples:

MLA International Bibliography on CD-ROM. 1981-.

This is the best index to use for searching literature topics. It indexes books, journal articles, and dissertations in modern languages, literature, folklore studies, and linguistics.

It includes citations dealing with literary criticism, literary theory, comparative literature, etc.

UMI's Dissertation Information Service (CD-ROM). 1980-.

This is a computerized dissertation database indexing bibliographic citations of masters and doctoral theses presented at American and Canadian universities. Information can be retrieved by subject classification or by keyword, as well as by author, institution granting the degree, and date of awarded degree.

Annotated Bibliography of Puerto Rican Bibliographies. 1990.

Here is a work which is a blessing to students of Puerto Rico and Puerto Rican studies. Fay Fowlie-Flores provides the necessary information on the development of the recording of the publications. She also includes all of the bibliographies published in the island as far back as the very first one done by Manuel María Sama (1850-1913) entitled Bibliografía Puerto-riqueña. This annotated bibliography lists 131 titles under the heading of General Works alone. The entries are bibliographies published as monographs, articles in journals, chapters in books, catalogs, and bibliographies included in doctoral dissertations. The titles range in size from ten pages each to sets of thirty volumes. Publication dates vary from 1946 through 1979 in the main. Unfortunately, most of the included bibliographies are dated earlier than 1980, the beginning of the period of coverage which this paper addresses. The most recent bibliography included in this work is Caribeña, a 1988 publication. Puerto

Rican Literature: A Bibliography, published in 1982, is a very important and scholarly work that includes various genres of the country's literature. The compiler of this work, David William Foster, has done excellent work, but his bibliography is in need of an update.

A very welcome addition to Puerto Rican bibliography is the Biographical Dictionary of Hispanic Literature in the United States published in 1989. It has entries for Puerto Rican, Cuban-American, and other Hispanic writers.

METHODOLOGY

My search for materials on Puerto Rican literature was conducted by referring to several of the basic reference works mentioned above. The sources from which I gained most of the relevant citations include:

Handbook of Latin American Studies: Humanities

Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI)

Bibliographic Guide to Latin American Studies

MLA International Bibliography on CD-ROM

University of Illinois online catalog (LCS/FBR)

Major subject headings used for searching these tools are as follows:

Literature
--Spanish America
--Prose fiction
--Hispanic Caribbean
Puerto Rican literature
Puerto Rican poetry
Puerto Rican writers
Literature and society--Puerto Rico

The Literature of Puerto Rico: A Pathfinder to Current Sources for Research

The purpose of this pathfinder is to facilitate studies and research in Puerto Rican literature published in the island as well as by Puerto Ricans in the United States. It is meant to be an introduction to the literature, rather than a comprehensive bibliography. Materials included are mostly in Spanish and English, although some sources written in other languages are also included. Its scope encompasses all literary genres. Works published in the period 1980 to the present are given priority for inclusion. This time period was selected due to the fact that most bibliographies of works relating to Puerto Rico provide good coverage up to 1980. The difficulty of finding sources in bibliographic form begins with the years following 1980.

Bibliographies

Bibliographic Guide to Latin American Studies. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1980-present.

Foster, David William, comp. Puerto Rican Literature: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 1982.

Fowlie-Flores, Fay, ed. Annotated Bibliography of Puerto Rican Bibliographies. Bibliographies and Indexes in Ethnic Studies, Number 1. New York: Greenwood Press, 1990.

Loroña, Lionel V., ed. A Bibliography of Latin American Bibliographies, 1980-1984: Social Sciences and Humanities. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1987.

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Pérez, Nelida and Angel Aponte Amilcar Tirado. Juan Antonio Corretjer, 1908-1985. New York: Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, City University of New York, 1986.

Woodbridge, Hensley Charles. Guide to Reference Works for the Study of the Spanish Language and Literature and Spanish-American Literature. Selected Bibliographies in Language and Literature, No. 5. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 1987.

Indexes

Fowlie-Flores, Fay, comp. Index to Puerto Rican Collective Biography. New York: Greenwood Press, 1987.

Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI). Edited by Barbara G. Valk. Los Angeles: UCLA Latin American Center, University of California at Los Angeles, 1980-present.

Hispanic Studies: A Selected Collection of Doctoral Dissertations and Masters Theses. Taken from Dissertation Abstracts International and Masters Abstracts. Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms International, 1980-1986.

MLA International Bibliography (CD-ROM). New York: H.W. Wilson Co., 1981-present.

Dictionaries

López Morales, Humberto, coord. Lexico del habla culta de San Juan de Puerto Rico. San Juan, P.R.: Academia Puertorriqueña de la Lengua Española, 1986.

Rivera de Alvarez, Josefina. Diccionario de literatura puertorriqueña. Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 1985.

Rosario, Ruben del. Vocabulario puertorriqueño. 3rd rev. ed. Río Piedras, P.R.: Editorial Edil, 1980.

Shimose, Pedro, ed. Diccionario de autores iberoamericanos. Madrid: Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Direccion General de Relaciones Culturales, Instituto de Cooperación Iberoamericana, 1982.

Handbooks and Guides

Handbook of Latin American Studies: Humanities. Edited by Dolores Moyano Martin. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1980-present.

Matos, Antonio, comp. and ed. A Guide to Reviews of Books from and about Hispanic America. New York: Garland, 1987.

Zubatsky, David. Latin American Authors: An Annotated Guide to Bibliographies. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1986.

Anthologies

Antología general de la literatura puertorriqueña. Madrid: Parteñon, 1982.

Antología de la literatura puertorriqueña. Madrid: Editorial Playor, 1980.

Antología de poesía puertorriqueña, 1984-85. Río Piedras, P.R.: Ediciones Mairena, 1986.

Babín, María Teresa, and Stan Steiner, eds. Borinquen: An Anthology of Puerto Rican Literature. New York: Vintage, 1974.

Mundo López, Hilda. Aperitivo antológico: poetas puertorriqueñas en Nueva York. New York: Department of Spanish and Portuguese, New York University), 1988.

Sotomayor Miletti, Aurea M. De lengua, razón y cuerpo: nueve poetas contemporáneas puertorriqueñas. San Juan, P.R.: Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 1987.

Monographs and Articles

Algarin, Miguel. "Nuyorican Literature." MELUS: The Journal of the Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States 8, no. 2 (Summer 1981): 89-92.

Binder, Wolfgang. "Die Nordwanderung der Puertoricaner und ihre Literatur." In Ostendorf, Berndt, ed. Amerikanische Gettoliteratur: Zur Literatur ethnischer, marginaler und unterdruckter Gruppen in Amerika. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchges., 1984.

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Kanellos, Nicolas. "Canto y declamación en la poesia nuyoriqueña." Confluencia: Revista Hispánica de Cultura y Literatura 1, no. 1 (Fall 1985): 102-106.

Marxuach, Carmen I. "Las revistas de la vanguardia puertorriqueña." Cuadernos Hispanoamericanos: Revista Mensual de Cultura Hispánica 406: 177-187.

Muller-Bergh, Klaus. Indagación del vanguardismo en las Antillas: Cuba, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, Haiti. In Burgos, Fernando, ed. Prosa hispánica de vanguardia. Madrid: Orígenes, 1986.

López, Ivette. "Puerto Rico: Las nuevas narradoras y la identidad cultural." Perspectives on Contemporary Literature 8 (1982): 77-83.

Matilla, Alfredo. "Breve panorámica de las letras puertorriqueñas en los Estados Unidos." Explicación de Textos Literarios 15, no. 2: 19-31.

Mohr, Nicholasa. "Puerto Rican Writers in the United States, Puerto Rican Writers in Puerto Rico: A Separation Beyond

Language." The Americas Review: A Review of Hispanic Literature and Art of the USA 15, no. 2 (Summer 1987): 87-92.

Olivera, Otto. La literatura en periódicos y revistas de Puerto Rico, Siglo XIX. Colección UPREX. Río Piedras, P.R.: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1985.

Rivera de Alvarez, Josefina. Literatura puertorriqueña: su proceso en el tiempo. Madrid: Partenon, 1983.

Vega, Ana Lydia. El tramo ancla: ensayos puertorriqueños de hoy. Colección Caribeña. Río Piedras, P.R.: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1989.

Congresses/Conferences

Images and Identities: The Puerto Rican in Two World Contexts. Edited by Asela Rodríguez de Laguna. New Brunswick: Transaction Books, 1987.

Literature in Transition: The Many Voices of the Caribbean Area, A Symposium. Edited by Rose S. Minc. Gaithersburg, MD; Upper Montclair, NJ: Hispamerica; Montclair State College; 1982.

Periodicals

Revista: publicada trimestralmente por la Asociación de Graduadas. San Juan, P.R.: La Asociación.

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4. William H. Katra, "Literature, Culture, and Society in the New Latin America." Latin American Research Review 23, no. 2: 171-172.

5. Fowlie-Flores, ix.

6. Eugene V. Mohr. The Nuyorican Experience (Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 1982), xi.

7.Iliana Sontag, Shelley E. Phipps, and Ross W. McLachlan, comps. Guide to Chicano Resources in the University of Arizona Library. 2nd rev. ed. (Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona, 1980), ii.

8. Brigitte T. Darnay, ed. Subject Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers (Detroit, MI: Gale Research, 1983), vol. 4: Social Sciences and Humanities Libraries.

9. MODOC Press, comp. Special Collections in College and University Libraries (New York: Macmillan, 1989), 445-446.

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